

RECKLESS RALPH'S

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

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THE DERRING-DO OF THE DIAMOND DICKS

A Bibliographic Monograph on a Famous
Fictional Father and Son

by J. Edward Leithead

Richard and Bertrand Wade, otherwise the Diamond Dicks, father and son, are famous, long-lived names in nickel novel history. The family pedigree is briefly traced in Diamond Dick, Jr. Weekly #60: Thomas Wade married a woman named Dizma. Richard was their son, who became famous as Diamond Dick. He married beautiful Alice Reardon, and they also had a son, Bertrand or Diamond Dick, Jr.

The first of the Diamond Dick tales, featuring Richard Wade (Diamond Dick, Sr.) and Handsome Harry, was published in seven installments in the New York Weekly, beginning April 8, 1878. The title of the first issue was "Diamond Dick; or, The Sarpint of Siskiyou County. A Romance of Arizona"; the second issue reversed the title to "The Sarpint of Siskiyou County, or, Diamond Dick," meaning Siskiyou County, California, whence came the red-bearded, roaring but jolly giant, Handsome Harry, a prominent character to the very last Diamond Dick novel issued in 1911. The author's pseudonym of "Delta Calaveras" is accredited to Robert Russell, who was also the original "W. B. Lawson," a stock pen-name used by Street & Smith, publishers. The large front page illustration for the first installment of this serial showed a Chinaman being hurled into the midst of a barroom crowd by the Sarpint of

Siskiyou from a short stairway (seemingly a cellar groggery).

Just a few months earlier, in 1877, the first Deadwood Dick tale by Edward L. Wheeler, "Deadwood Dick, the Prince of the Road, or, The Black Rider of the Black Hills," had been published as #1 of Beadle's Half Dime Library. Later came Deadwood Dick, Jr. Thus the Wades and the Harrises became rival dime novel duos, the former outlasting the latter by many seasons.

"Silver Mask, or, The Sarpint of Siskiyou," another New York Weekly serial by Russell, may be called the second of the Diamond Dick series, although it detailed Harry's adventures, with Dick in the background, incognito as "Del Norte." In 1889, under the title "Diamond Dick in Arizona," the first story was reprinted in the first edition of #14 Log Cabin Library. "Silver Mask" repeated in #17 Log Cabin Library, first edition. Later editions of Log Cabin assigned different stories to #14 and #17. "Silver Mask" was also published as #376 Log Cabin under the title, "Danite Dick and His White Mountain Wolves, or, The Octagon of Arizona."

Nugget Library reprinted these two tales, "Diamond Dick in Arizona" as #111, "Danite Dick and His White Mountain Wolves" as #125. New stories about Richard Wade had begun with "Dashing Diamond Dick," by W. B. Lawson (Robert Russell), Nugget Library #16. #17 was "Diamond Dick's Death Trail," #18, "Diamond Dick's Claim," then a long skip to #34, "The Shade of Diamond Dick." After that, the Diamond Dick stories appeared frequently in Nugget, 25 of them in

all. In "Dashing Diamond Dick," Bertie Wade or Diamond Dick, Jr. was but a small boy. #109 was "Diamond Dick's Discard, or, Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Dig-out." After #109, the hero of the stories was young Diamond Dick, and they numbered about seven.

Early in the 1890's, the New York Five-Cent Library reprinted the series published in Nugget, leaving out the two New York Weekly serials. New York Five-Cent Library was renamed Diamond Dick Library, and some 53 new Diamond Dick titles were added to the growing list. This black-and-white publication preceded the long-lived, colored cover library, Diamond Dick, Jr.—The Boys' Best Weekly. In Diamond Dick Library, not all the stories were about the two Dicks and Handsome Harry; there was a scattering of other tales.

#203 of the Library, dated September 19, 1896, was "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Danger Signal, or, The Red Light at Rawlins." In the cover illustration, Bertie is mounted on a semaphore, flagging a train. Rifle in hand, young Diamond Dick is posed in an oval to the left of this picture, and to the right of it, in another oval, is W. B. Lawson, author, in hunting costume. When this story was reprinted as #252 of the colored cover weekly, its title was "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Danger Signal, or, Rough Work at Rawlins," and the scene of Bertie on the signal apparatus was repeated, drawn by a different artist. The figures at the sides were left out.

Diamond Dick Library folded up when Diamond Dick, Jr.—The Boys' Best Weekly started its long run in 1896, being issued at first in small size like the early Nick Carter and Tip Top Weeklies. #1 was "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Marked Bullet, or, The Wreck of the Fast Mail." Some of the early numbers were reprints from the black-and-white libraries, and all, from #1 to #103, were about young Diamond Dick, with Handsome Harry sharing the honors as his pard, also characters known as Blackberry and Hop Wan. The elder Dick didn't appear in a story bearing his name until #104, "Dashing Diamond Dick, or, The Tigers of Tombstone," reprint of the same title in Nugget and New York Five-Cent Libraries. #109 was "Diamond Dick's Death Trail," #113, "Diamond Dick's Claim" and #117, "The Shade

of Diamond Dick." Altogether, 18 of the 25 original Diamond Dick, Sr. stories were reprinted in the Weekly.

On the covers of these issues, Dick was shown as having long brown hair, though later on in the series it turned white, and he was called the "veteran" or "old" Diamond Dick. Bertie was pictured as grown to young manhood, wearing his yellow hair long after the fashion of his dad—"the son of his dad" as Harry often spoke of him. Many of the early Diamond Dick, Jr. stories were the work of T. C. Harbaugh and Thomas W. Hanshaw. Diamond Dick, Sr., as every novel reader knows, got his nickname from his diamond-decorated attire. The costume of both Dicks was semi-Mexican, a picturesque style once prevalent in parts of the West and Southwest, copied from the early Californians. Richard Wade was most often referred to as a "ranchero," Bertie as "the young sport."

The background of these tales was the West in the final phases of its wildness, when there were railroads, and numerous cattle and mining towns. It was beyond the time when Indian-fighting was an everyday business. Though Indians were featured fairly often, adventures of the two Diamond Dicks and Handsome Harry were mainly with bad men, gun-fighters, outlaw gangs, gamblers, cowboys, rustlers, miners and Mexicans.

Diamond Dick, Jr. and Handsome Harry, the "Ol' Sarpint o' Siskiyou, wi' seventeen rattles an' a button," went to Alaska on a gold hunt in #53, "Off for Alaska," #54, "The Rush for the New El Dorado," #55, "In the Klondike Mines," #56, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Klondike Claim" and #57, "Diamond Dick, Jr. Homeward Bound." All were new stories for the Weekly, published at the time of the Klondike gold rush.

Father and son had adventures as cattlemen, railroaders and mine operators, and some fine Western action pictures adorned the covers. Not only did the Dicks make a stand for law and order in cattle and mining towns, but also appeared—dressed for the West!—in the big cities, to fight the lawless element. With #239, "Diamond Dick's Own Brand, or, Two of a Kind Against the Field," the Weekly changed from small to large size, and so continued to the end. From #239 to

#293, the stories were new, but #294 through #328 were reprints of #1 through #45, omitting #7, 11, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 40 and 41. The cover illustrations during this run of reprints were in some cases the same as on the earlier issues, but in others new scenes of action were depicted. There was at least one other reprint. #340, "Diamond Dick Missing, or, The Veteran's Unknown Pard" was, almost verbatim, #60, "Diamond Dick, Jr. Out of Sight," the father replacing Bertie in the title role in the later story.

With #329, "Diamond Dick's Challenge, or, The Rival Cattle Kings," new stories began again, and for a while Diamond Dick, Sr. held the spotlight, though Bertie and Handsome Harry were on hand. Several "boy pards" were on hand, too: Two-spot Peters and Nixey Peters, one from New York, the other from Chicago, no relation to each other despite the same surname; Fritz Dunder, and Ben Recklin, called "Bricktop Ben," who owned a smart dog named "Joker."

No old-time reader will forget the "Comet Mine," "salted" and sold to old Diamond Dick as worthless, but which turned out to be a bonanza, causing the original owners to make every effort, mostly foul, to recover the property. Comet City, a tough mining town which sprang up around the mine, was cleaned of its troublemakers by the Dicks and their pards. It was to this Comet Mine series that the following blurb, appearing at the top of title lists on the back covers as late as 1909, referred:

"Diamond Dick and his son, Bertie, are true men of the Western plains. They are noble-hearted fellows, who do not impose on the weaker man, and who do not let anyone else do it if they can help it. You ought to read how they clean up a mining camp of the dishonest gamblers and other toughs who usually prey on the uneducated miners."

Then there was the fascinating "T. N. & P. R. R." series, with the Dicks managing a railroad. Though sticking mainly to Western adventure, father and son had a go at Eastern adventure, also; they ran a sea-side resort, and later entered the show business in #353, "Diamond Dick's Wild West," #354, "Diamond Dick's Double Bill" and #355, "Diamond Dick's Farewell Performance." Not a few stories with

a circus background were scattered throughout the Weekly. The first was #32, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Big Contract, or, How Handsome Harry Beat the Circus." Others followed at intervals—#78, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Circus," #180, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Chariot Race," #181, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Side-Show," #182 "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Top-Liner," #242, "Diamond Dick's Split Trick," #291, "Diamond Dick's Mid-air Fight," #317, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s Big Contract" (reprint of #32), #345, "Diamond Dick at the Circus," #408, "Diamond Dick, Jr. and the Showmen," #411, "Diamond Dick, Jr. and the Circus Sharps," #446, "Handsome Harry in the Big Ring," #532, "Diamond Dick's Black Sign," #565, "Diamond Dick in a Brace Game" and #653, "Diamond Dick's Circus 'Stunt'." #446, 532 and 565 were by George C. Jenks, a prolific writer of Diamond Dick tales, who had at one time been a circus press agent.

A run of numbers featuring Bertie began with #374, "Diamond Dick, Jr.'s New Pard." Then the veteran, his dad, came to the front again in titles bearing his name. Father and son ran nearly neck and neck for title honors from there on, until the series reached 430, "Handsome Harry's Hard Fight, or, The Queer Mystery of the Five Ace Gang." George C. Jenks authored this and many subsequent tales; it was probably his first for the series, although Billy Doo, a character of whom Jenks made much, was introduced in an earlier issue, #426, "Diamond Dick, Jr. and the 'Knock Down' Men," a story which doesn't seem to be in Jenks' style. In #426, Billy was a boy of twelve, but he grew older, fifteen or sixteen, in later issues. The author of #426 says of him, in part:

"Billy hailed from Chicago and old Diamond Dick had run counter of him at a cattle ranch beyond Ute Crossing, just out of the Whipsaw Hills. Some excitement attended the beginning of this acquaintance, and the part Billy had taken in the doings had made him 'solid' with the General Manager of the Flushville, Pocomo and Skiplap Railroad."

When Jenks began writing, several changes took place. Whether or not it was through the popularity of old Diamond Dick had waned, he stepped out after #429, "Diamond Dick Among the Mail Bags," and Handsome Harry,

the giant Californian, was featured in title and story in all but two issues from #430 to #446. The exceptions were #439 and #440, two Diamond Dick, Jr. titles. The Sarpint of Sis-kiyou looked as he always had on the covers, with flaming beard and hair, clad in wide-brimmed hat, red shirt and boots. But young Diamond Dick, though still long-haired and smooth-shaven, appeared a bit older and changed his garb completely. He became the cowboy, with tall-crowned white Stetson, red or blue shirt, buckskin chaps and high-heeled, spurred boots. Often he wore white gauntlets. He was no longer called Bertie in the stories, but, for a good while afterward, was thus referred to in a blurb on the back covers, just as the picture of old Diamond Dick appeared to the left of young Diamond Dick on the cover masthead long after the veteran had departed the pages of the Weekly. The blurb read:

"The demand for stirring stories of Western adventure is admirably filled by this library. Every up-to-date boy ought to read just how law and order are established and maintained on our Western plains by Diamond Dick, Bertie and Handsome Harry."

Among the various authors of "Diamond Dicks," George C. Jenks ranks high. The situations in which he placed Dick and his pards were real hair-raisers, and he added a touch of mystery, humor and romance. Whether or not Billy Doo was a Jenks' creation, it is certain that he introduced two other interesting characters. One was Belle Bellair, dainty, dark-haired beauty from the Pacific Coast, who, though an heiress, a rich mine owner, was pleased to be called Diamond Dick's pard, to don sombrero, bolero jacket, leggings and riding boots and go adventuring. A particularly good story in which she appeared was #506 "Diamond Dick's Fight for a Girl, or, The Tenderfoot of Bellair Gulch." Good cover illustration, too. Dick, Harry and Billy are beneath a tree with ropes around their necks, about to be hung, and Dick is in the act of whirling upward, kicking the chief lyncher in the chest. Belle Bellair was at Diamond Dick's side in numerous stories by Jenks. His other important character creation was Jack Sinn, the gambler.

Jenks developed some of his humorous situations by playing off the small

Billy and the giant Harry against each other. Although the two would have gone any lengths to help each other—and often did—Billy Doo was forever twitting the Sarpint about his great size, his awkwardness, his red beard or his slow wit (the big plainsman being, however, quite agile and mentally alert). Harry would take it good-naturedly for a while, then, howling his war cry, threaten to annihilate the young pest. Even at critical moments these two would bicker without regard for safety, and Dick would interfere.

Diamond Dick, as portrayed by Jenks, was cowboy, scout and United States marshal, a marshal with a sort of roving commission, for he went everywhere, down into Old Mexico after bandits, up into Canada to help the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, and to the Klondike goldfields. He was also president of a southern railroad with an office at Pocomo, New Mexico. He was a newspaper editor in #550, "Diamond Dick, Editor, or, A Rattling Surprise for Lane Dog." Lane Dog was a raw and lusty Wyoming cattle town, the scene of many Jenks tales.

Handsome Harry was elected mayor of the town in #552, "Diamond Dick's Hoodlum Trail, or, Hot Politics at Lane Dog." Opposed to the Sarpint in this election, and representing the desperado and cattle rustling element, was that rascal extraordinary, Jack Sinn, gambler, gun-and-knife-fighter, all around bad man. The cover illustration shows Dick electioneering for the Sarpint, who stands beside him on a platform, arms folded, red-bearded face beaming, while Jack Sinn and some of his supporters look on from the front of a nearby building. The typical "gambler of the West," Jack made his appearance soon after Jenks took up the Diamond Dick series. A description of him, from #528, "Diamond Dick's Long Leap, or, Single-handed Against a Giant," follows:

"With a sneering smile distending his thin lips, and with his long, black, snaky mustache going up under his nose, Jack Sinn, the gambler, known as That Pale Man from Oregon, stepped forward, the bridle of his cowpony over his arm. Jack Sinn was the same strange-looking man he had always been. All those who looked at him now saw that he was as scrupu-

lously dressed as usual, with the general appearance of having just left the hands of a well-trained valet. Upon the long, black, lank hair that hung on either side of his hollow cheeks was perched a very tall, straight plug hat, such as was never seen on the head of anyone else in that region. This hat appeared to be a new one, and probably it was, for the hat Jack Sinn had worn in the cavern under the Snake River, which had been flooded by the awful torrent, not many weeks before, had been so badly knocked about at that time that it would have been practically impossible for it to have regained its shape and glossy symmetry, no matter how careful a treatment it had at the hands of a hatter. The remainder of Jack Sinn's habiliments were of the kind that he usually wore—a long, black frock-coat, wide-open vest, showing a great expanse of white shirt front, an immaculate white collar, with a large black tie, and well starched white cuffs, pulled down ostentatiously. He wore riding-boots pulled up over his black trousers, with large Mexican spurs, and there was a rawhide quirt dangling from his left wrist."

Merciless desperado though he was, Jack Sinn's word could be relied on once he had given it. He prided himself on that point. He was always turning up unexpectedly to give Dick and his pards a battle over one thing or another. Finally, he crossed Dick's trail no more; in #588, "Diamond Dick's Short Order, or, How Jack Sinn Settled Up," the young United States marshal got him with a straight-aimed bullet. The cover picture on this issue was, like so many Diamond Dick Weekly covers, a real thriller. It shows Dick, with a girl in his arms, balanced upright on the broad back of a steer in the midst of a stampede. There are several mounted figures in the background, one of them Jack Sinn, in plug hat and frock coat—the last of his many appearances on the cover. The artist was Charles L. Wrenn, who, with other staff artists, Marmaduke Russell, Edward Johnson and F. A. Carter, week after week pictured the chief characters of the Diamond Dick series in very tight corners, causing those who gazed upon them, hung in cigar store windows, to part readily with five cents—to see how they got out of it. Russell was par-

ticularly good at drawing Western girls, or for that matter, Eastern girls, for Nick Carter Weekly, Bowery Boy Library, etc.

#601 was "Diamond Dick in the Canal Zone," and this opened a series of twelve yarns dealing with the adventures of Dick and Handsome Harry in Panama and South America. Jenks wasn't the author of these. Probably they were the work of John H. Whitson, who wrote some of the later Diamond Dicks. The marshal and Harry returned to the United States in #613, "Diamond Dick and the Dakota Dazzler," misprinted on some back cover title lists as "Diamond Dick and the Dakota Blizzard."

Billy Doo and Belle Bellair began to appear less frequently; why, it would be hard to say. In #641, "Diamond Dick's Mexican Quest," Billy shows up in strange guise. In #642, "Diamond Dick's Aztec Captive," all four of the pards are together again. In #643, "Diamond Dick's Peon Pard," Billy makes his last appearance, and Belle hers in the following number, 644, "Diamond Dick's Matador Rival." It is doubtful if George C. Jenks wrote many, if any, of the stories after that. More than likely John H. Whitson carried on. Handsome Harry still stuck by Dick. A couple of boys, Jock and Frank, were introduced, one of whom became the Sarpint's adopted son. And Dick took on a new and youthful partner, Jimmy Lang. They weren't to be compared with the old favorites, Billy and Belle and Jack Sinn.

In the declining days of the Weekly, W. Bert Foster wrote a series of nine excellent tales about Dick and Harry in the Klondike, beginning with #739, "Diamond Dick's Trail to Nome"; then six stories laid in the Southwest, #743 "Diamond Dick and the Barilla Apaches," through #753, "Diamond Dick in the Line of Duty." The Weekly was fast approaching the end, Whitson, apparently, penning the last nine stories. But it had lived to a good ripe age, folding with #762. An ad of Street & Smith's stated that "the heroes of the stories in this weekly are dear to the hearts of 60,000 boys." I was one of those boys.

There was an effort to revive the popularity of the Diamond Dicks, father and son, in 1927. The Great Western Library reprinted Diamond Dick

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Also a few copies each of the following: Adventure Weekly, American In-
dian, Army & Navy Weekly, Blue & Gray, Boys Best, Boys Home, Jesse James
Stories, New Buffalo Bill, Dick Dobbs, Red White & Blue, Western Weekly,
Young Glory, Yankee Daadle, Young Rover, and many others.

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A large accumulation of old black & whites including Beadles Dimes, Beadles Boys Library, Beadles Pocket Library, Wide Awake Library (including Frank Reades), War Library, Army & Navy Library, Gem, Old Sleuth, Old Cap Collier, N. Y. Detective, Frank Reade Library, and many others.

An accumulation of 827 Thick Book Publications: New Magnet, 101; Adventure Library, 36; Round The World Lib., 37; Merriwell Series, 52; New Eagle Series, 16; American Detective Series, 119; Horatio Alger Series, 19; Alger Series (Street & Smith), 9; Alger Series (Superior Printing), 4; Adventure Series (Westbrook), 146; Hart Series (Westbrook), 217; Western tory Library (Street & Smith), 33; Select Library (Street & Smith), 8; Old Sleuth's Own (Ogilvy), 9; Miscellaneous Dime Novels by different publishers, 25. Total 827 books. A lot of good reading. MAKE AN OFFER!

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C. V. CLARK

45 Astor Place

New York 3, N. Y.

(over)

and Buffalo Bill tales in alternate issues, starting with #1, "Diamond Dick's Own Brand" and ending with #25, "Diamond Dick's Red Trailer." Above that number, only Buffalo Bill stories were printed.

THE END

NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings

Carl Linville, 972 Windsor St., Cincinnati, Ohio, doesn't care much for the index folders over novels! I would say Carl is right to a certain extent. If he never has visitors it's O.K. to have them put up in 25 to 50 bound up in newspapers, but, where you have visitors that come to see your collection of old timers, like us fellows up here in the east, then I would suggest index folders every time, as it keeps the light away, and so much handling, as I have found out myself, for I've spoiled many a fine old timer from so much handling and the light. Anyway, each collector has his way of fixing up his novels.

S. B. Condon of So. Penabscot, Me., has been very sick and in the hospital since last December, but is feeling much better now, than he did.

Bill Williamson of Winchester, Va., says he only has cloth bound books now, and intends to keep them, so we're glad he has sold all his other stuff, he hasn't anything left now.

Frank J. Frey, 205 N. 11th Street, Phila., Pa. reports that he lost his brother last Oct., we are very sorry to hear this, god bless him always.

Waldo E. Lyon, retired Trick Cyclist of 24 Warrenton St., Boston, Mass., died Feb. 5th, age 73 years old. He had appeared with Ringling Bros-Barnum & Bailey shows.

What has become of Bill Langell, 1654 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, Cal. Various members have written him, but all letters have been returned. Who knows his whereabouts, write ye editor Cummings.

Ray Mengar says his business is going along pretty good, as people will continue to smoke, the same as they have to continue eating. Competition sometimes gets rough, but we can take it. It's been rough before and it keeps a fellow from getting too soft and taking things for granted. Inflation

seems to have everyone worried but things in this world have never been easy for any generation and ours is no exception. The man who can close his mind to the world's troubles even for a little while is the lucky one who will be happy at least part of the time. We all take ourselves too seriously and forget to enjoy and love our fellow man until it's too late.

"Fattest Girl" in the world, a 750 pounder, died Feb. 23rd or thereabouts in a hospital in New Orleans. She said before she died, "Can't eat a thing, doggone it." Baby Betty Harrell, redhaired sideshow entertainer tripled her mammoth form before the end, and said "I think it's yellow jaundice." It took 8 men to move her into the hospital, and 2 beds bolted together. We know she is in the world of peace now.

Douglas H. Cook, former publisher in New York, of the old *Leslies Weekly*, *Judge* and *Life* Magazines, and president of *Pickwicks, Ltd.*, also New York publishers of hospital magazines, died Feb. 19th, age 62.

Also Mrs. Rose Harris Fields, 73, in New York, widow of Lew Fields of the Weber and Fields comedy team, and mother of Herbert, Joseph A. and Dorothy Fields, writers of several Broadway shows. All are in their new home, and happy.

Everett L. Cline, 930 U. S. Nat'l Bank Bldg., Denver 2, Colo. wants *Golden Days* Vols. 1, 2, 3 and 17.

Who wants a nice collection of *First Day* and *First Flight* covers, also some special covers, and most of them have nice commemorative stamps on them from 1927 up. Also many ship covers too, also many commemoratives in blocks of four on covers, and values at present day catalog prices of over \$1000. Will trade for a dime and nickel novel and story paper collection. Who is interested — write ye editor Cummings.

Eli A. Messier has lots of N. Y. *Weekly* and no cover *Tip Tops* for sale.

This is the final issue of the *Roundup* to all members that are in arrears, so please send in your dues now. On account of the high costs of everything, ye editor isn't able to carry them on any longer, so won't you please send in your dues now, don't put it off—NOW.

Albert Pohlman, R. #1, Hortonville, Wisc., says both he and his dad love to read the old timers these days.

David Kohn of Curlio Book Shop, 719 W. 6th St., Los Angeles 14, Calif. says he went to school in Boston, Mass., sold the first song sheet he ever saw in front of Auston and Stones Museum on Tremont St. Gosh Dave, that must have been in the real old days gone by.

Warren Spittler, Box 148, Covington, Va., writes, where in the world is Cummings these days. He says he hasn't heard from me in a coons age. He will soon.

Camden, Maine
March 8, 1948

The Happy Hours Bro.,
Members of the Dime Novel Roundup:

Sirs:

At a regular meeting of the Camden Business Men's Association on March 1st, 1948, said Association members voted to place upon the walls of the rooms the beautiful Plaque presented to the Club in memory of one of our late citizens, and a long time member, Gil Patten of Frank Merriwell fame.

"Gil" was a valuable contribution to our town by his work, helpful in promoting and advancing for a better future of our beautiful town, and augmented publicity of a prosperous summer Tourist Colony, and in words aided in putting "Camden, Maine, on the Map."

Please accept the grateful thanks of our Association that "Gil" loved so much, and to be assured that this token of your friendship for one of our departed will be a valuable asset to adornment of the rooms of our club.

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For your fine response to my full page ad in January Roundup. Lots of the items have been disposed of but there are plenty good ones left so look at the ad again and write me for anything you want.

Make me an offer for nice complete set of Westbrook's Frontier Series (100 numbers) and Deadwood Dick Library (64 numbers) also Golden Days Vol. 1 to 20 except one lone issue. I don't like to sell this stuff but I need more room.

I will pay \$100 cash for a nice set of Comrades. Also want two Harkaways in Round the World Library, (Among the Pirates and In China). And don't forget I buy fantastic and weird magazines printed before 1946, but they MUST be in nice condition. Can't use battered, dirty, repaired, wrinkled or coverless stuff.

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